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Claims 1-44 are pending. Claims 8, 16, and 38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 as being indefinite for lacking sufficient antecedent basis. Claims 8, 16, and 38 have been amended and the rejection is believed overcome. Claims 1, 3-10, 12-16, 18-25, 27-31, 33-38, and 40-44 including independent claims 1, 10, 16, 25, 31, 38, 43, and 44 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the iPlanet Application Server 6.0 White Paper (hereinafter Sun) in view of Reynolds.

The independent claims 1, 10, 16, 25, 31, 38, 43, and 44 variably recite maintaining the scope of the received request. In one example, as noted in the specification on page 11, line 32, "an identifier tag for the invoked component is referred to herein as a scope." The material cited by the Examiner in Sun (page 23, lines 1-5) does not describe any identifier for an invoked component, a scope of an invoked component, or any invoked component for that matter. The material is believed to describe "processing of requests by a "Java Server process" or a "C++ Server process". No scope or identifier is described or suggested.

The independent claims further recite "wherein the exception listener is stateless and is operable to handle a plurality of types of exceptions from a plurality of different components." This recitation is not addressed in the Examiner's Office Action dated 10/07/2004. The material cited by the Examiner in Sun and Reynolds does not teach or suggest an exception listener that is stateless. Furthermore, no exception listener is described that can handle a plurality of types of exceptions from a plurality of different components. Reynolds describes only generic "exception handling."

In light of the above remarks relating to independent claims, the remaining dependent claims are believed allowable for at least the reasons noted above. Applicants believe that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully request a Notice of Allowance for this application from the Examiner. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

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Respectfully submitted,
BEYER WEAVER & THOMAS, LLP



Godfrey K. Kwan
Reg. No. 46,850

P.O. Box 70250
Oakland, CA 94612
(510) 663-1100

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